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Monday, April 07, 2003

John Bowers
President
International Longshoremen's Association
17 Battery Place, Suite 930
New York, NY 10004-1261

Re: Stephen Keefe & Local 805

Dear Mr. Bowers:



Please be advised that I represent Stephen Keefe, as long-standing member of the International Longshoremen's Association. I am writing to ask the International to intervene in an ongoing problem with Local 805.

As you may recall, in 1999 prior counsel for Mr. Keefe asked the International to investigate the reasons why Local 805 had refused Mr. Keefe's request for a transfer to Local 805. As a result, on May 24, 1999, you wrote to Local 805 asking it to provide in writing the reason for Local 805's refusal. (Exhibit 1 attached hereto).

After receiving and reviewing Local 805's reasons for its refusal, you wrote to Local 805 on August 27, 1999, indicating that it had failed to provide sufficient reason to warrant the denial of Mr. Keefe's transfer of local union membership. You also directed Local 805 to immediately comply or face appropriate disciplinary action. (Ex. 2)

When Local 805 did not comply, on November 17, 1999, you appointed a Committee to conduct a hearing on the matter. (Ex. 3)

On December 28, 1999, the Committee filed its Report in which it recommended that if Local 805 did not admit allow Mr. Keefe to transfer by January 15, 2000, Local 805 should be put in trusteeship. (Ex. 4)

As it occurred, Local 805 did final permit Mr. Keefe to transfer to that Local on or about January 15, 2000. However, since that date Local 805 and its Rules Committee has continued to harass and discriminate against Mr. Keefe by placing him in lower Gangs than he should be. As a result, on February 1, 2001, I filed a complaint on Mt. Keefe's behalf in Federal District Court here in Boston, Massachusetts, against Local 805.

I am writing to you now to apprise you of further harassment and discrimination by Local 805 that we believe is best addressed by your office. Here are the details.

On September 29, 2000, the Rules Committee by a vote of 5 to 3 (finally) allowed Mr. Keefe to move from Gang 12 to Gang 11. At the time the Chairman of the Rules Committee asked Mr. Keefe if he had another job. Mr. Keefe's response was that he had only another income like a lot of other Union members here do. Mr. Keefe also signed a social security form that allowed the Rules Committee to investigate whether Mr. Keefe had another job.

Mr. Keefe then spent the next two years in Gang 11. In October, 2002, he moved into Gang 10. The problems start thereafter (when the Federal Court ruled against Local 805).

In February, 2003, the Rules Committee held a meeting about Mr. Keefe's Gang status — without ever informing Mr. Keefe. The Rules Committee suspended Mr. Keefe for six months and put him back in Gang 12 for supposedly having another job. (Mr. Keefe continues to have another income, not another job, and the Rules Committee members know this.)

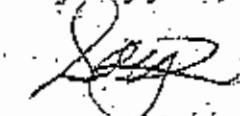
In March, 2003, the Rules Committee held another meeting. We understand that the Rules Committee did this after being advised that it could not hold a meeting without notifying Mr. Keefe. This time the Committee voted 5 to 3 to put Mr. Keefe back in Gang 10 after a 60 day suspension. Again, the supposed rationale is that Mr. Keefe has another job.

Believe it or not, the Rules Committee then held a third meeting later in March, 2003. Mr. Keefe was not given any notice of this meeting. And it is our understanding that this meeting was called at a time when persons who had voted previously for Mr. Keefe would be out of town. Not surprisingly, the "rump" Rules Committee again suspended Mr. Keefe for 6 months and put him back in Gang 12.

We protest this continuing form of harassment and retaliation. We ask that the International investigate this matter, especially inasmuch as the Rules Committee, including the current Chairman of the Rules Committee and his relatives, have other jobs and incomes (such as family businesses, rental income, pensions and cash paying jobs) while still enjoying the benefits of Gangs 1 - 9.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,



Scott A. Lathrop

cc: Stephen Keefe